

BUSINESS REPORT

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, February 7, 2011
Place: Capitol

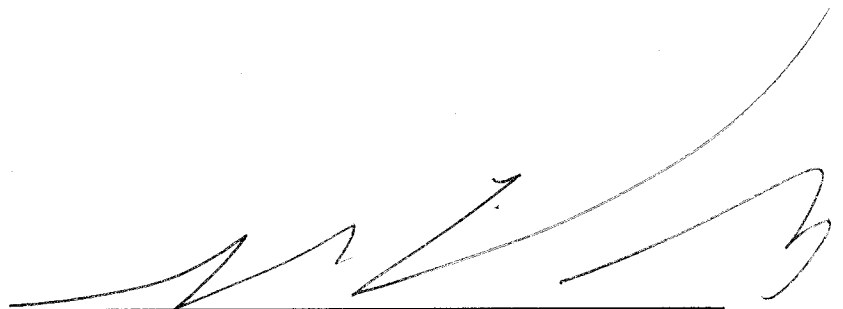
Time: 3:00 PM
Room: 455

BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:

EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN:

HB 213
HB 218
HB 243
HB 277
HB 251

Comments:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Rep. Gordon Vance, is written over a horizontal line.

REP. Gordon Vance, Chair

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Roll Call
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE: 2-7-2011

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT/ EXCUSED</u>
REP. LEE RANDALL, VICE CHAIR	✓	
REP. STEVE LAVIN	✓	
REP. FRANK SMITH	✓	
REP. JERRY O'NEIL	✓	
REP. KATHY SWANSON	✓	
REP. ELSIE ARNTZEN		✓
REP. DIANE SANDS	✓	
REP. CAROLYN SQUIRES, VICE CHAIR	✓	
REP. TOM BERRY	✓	
REP. KRAYTON KERNS	✓	
REP. EDWARD GREEF	✓	
REP. MATTHEW ROSENDALE		Exc
REP. GORDON VANCE, CHAIR	✓	



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 7, 2011

Page 1 of 15

Mr. Speaker:

We, your committee on **Transportation** recommend that **House Bill 213** (first reading copy -- white) **do pass as amended.**

Signed: _____

Representative Gordon Vance, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Title, page 1, line 5.

Following: "PERSONS;"

Insert: "CREATING A LOW-SPEED RESTRICTED DRIVER'S LICENSE;"

Following: "VEHICLE"

Insert: "AND "GOLF CART""

2. Title, page 1, line 6 through line 7.

Strike: "PROVIDING" on line 6 through "VEHICLE;" on line 7

Insert: "PROVIDING FOR THE REGISTRATION OF A LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC VEHICLE AND A GOLF CART OPERATED BY A PERSON WITH A LOW-SPEED RESTRICTED DRIVER'S LICENSE;"

3. Title, page 1, line 9.

Strike: "61-1-101, 61-3-562,"

Insert: "10-3-1307, 23-1-105, 61-1-101, 61-3-201, 61-3-301, 61-3-312, 61-3-321, 61-3-332,"

4. Page 1, line 14 through line 20.

Strike: section 1 in its entirety

Insert: "NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Low-speed electric vehicle -- golf cart operated by person with low-speed restricted driver's license -- operating requirements.** (1) A low-speed electric vehicle may be operated only by a person with a low-speed restricted driver's license.

(2) A low-speed electric vehicle or golf cart operated by a person with a low-speed restricted driver's license may be

Committee Vote:

Yes 12, No 1

Fiscal Note Required ☐

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operated only on a highway for which the posted speed limit does not exceed 25 miles per hour.

(3) A low-speed electric vehicle or golf cart operated by a person with a low-speed restricted driver's license may not cross a highway with a posted speed limit of greater than 45 miles per hour.

(4) Except as provided in subsections (1) through (3), the provisions of this chapter apply to a low-speed electric vehicle or golf cart operated by a person with a low-speed restricted driver's license."

Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 2. Low-speed restricted driver's

license. (1) The department may issue a low-speed restricted driver's license to a person who is physically or otherwise impaired in a manner and degree that prevent the person from safely operating a motor vehicle across the range of speeds permitted or required on a public highway.

(2) (a) To qualify for a low-speed restricted driver's license, an applicant shall submit to the department a medical evaluation or statement from a treating physician that attests to the person's impairment and resulting inability to safely operate a motor vehicle across the range of speeds permitted or required on a public highway.

(b) The applicant must be otherwise qualified for a driver's license under this chapter and shall apply for a driver's license under 61-5-107, pay the fees required in 61-5-111, and pass the vision test, the knowledge test, and the road test required under 61-5-110. The road test must be modified to conform to the operational limitations of the vehicle.

(3) The department may issue a low-speed restricted instruction permit, valid for 30 days from the date of issuance, to a person who qualifies for a low-speed restricted driver's license under this section and who passes the vision test and knowledge test required in 61-5-110. A permitholder may operate a low-speed electric vehicle or golf cart pursuant to [section 1] while in the immediate possession of the permit and accompanied by a licensed driver seated beside the permitholder."

Insert: "Section 3. Section 10-3-1307, MCA, is amended to read:

"10-3-1307. Responsibilities of department of transportation -- assessment and collection of fees -- issuance of permits -- inspection of motor carriers. (1) After receiving notification from the person or entity that plans to ship high-level radioactive waste or transuranic waste through the state, the department of transportation shall assess fees according to the following schedule:

(a) a fee of \$2,500 must be assessed for each cask designed for transport by truck; and

(b) a fee of \$4,500 must be assessed for the first cask designed for transport by rail and a fee of \$3,000 for each additional cask designed for transport by rail that is shipped by the same person or entity in the same shipment.

(2) Payment of the fees provided in subsection (1) is the responsibility of the person or entity who owns the waste.

(3) Upon receipt of the fees provided in subsection (1), the department of transportation shall issue to the owner of the waste a permit that must be carried with the waste as it is traveling through the state.

(4) The department of transportation shall deposit all of the fees collected under this section in the radioactive waste transportation monitoring, emergency response, and training account created in 10-3-1304.

(5) If the waste is to be transported through the state by motor carrier, the department of transportation shall coordinate with the highway patrol on the inspection of the motor carrier by the motor carrier services division.

(6) This section does not exempt the operator of a motor carrier from any of the provisions of Title 61, chapter 10, from Title 69, chapter 12, or from any other law that applies to the operation of motor vehicles in Montana.

(7) Fees under this section must be assessed regardless of ownership, and ~~61-3-321(13)~~ 61-3-321(14) and 61-10-127 do not apply."

Insert: "Section 4. Section 23-1-105, MCA, is amended to read:

"23-1-105. Fees and charges. (1) The department may levy and collect reasonable fees or other charges for the use of privileges and conveniences that may be provided and to grant concessions that it considers advisable, except as provided in subsections (2) and (6). All money derived from the activities of the department, except as provided in subsection (5), must be deposited in the state treasury in a state special revenue fund to the credit of the department.

(2) Overnight camping fees established by the department under subsection (1) must be discounted 50% for a campsite rented by a person who is a resident of Montana, as defined in 87-2-102, and either 62 years of age or older or certified as disabled in accordance with rules adopted by the department.

(3) For a violation of any fee collection rule involving a vehicle, the registered owner of the vehicle at the time of the violation is personally responsible if an adult is not in the vehicle at the time the violation is discovered by an authorized officer. A defense that the vehicle was driven into the fee area by another person is not allowable unless it is shown that at that time, the vehicle was being used without the consent of the registered owner.

(4) Money received from the collection of fees and charges is subject to the deposit requirements of 17-6-105(6) unless the department has submitted and received approval for a modified deposit schedule pursuant to 17-6-105(8).

(5) There is a fund of the enterprise fund type, as defined in 17-2-102(2)(a), for the purpose of managing state park visitor services revenue. The fund is to be used by the department to serve the recreating public by providing for the obtaining of

inventory through purchase, production, or donation and for the sale of educational, commemorative, and interpretive merchandise and other related goods and services at department sites and facilities. The fund consists of money from the sale of educational, commemorative, and interpretive merchandise and other related goods and services and from donations. Gross revenue from the sale of educational, commemorative, and interpretive merchandise and other related goods and services must be deposited in the fund. All interest and earnings on money deposited in the fund must be credited to the fund for use as provided in this subsection.

(6) In recognition of the fact that individuals support state parks through the payment of certain motor vehicle registration fees, persons who pay the fee provided for in ~~61-3-321(18)(a)~~ 61-3-321(19)(a) may not be required to pay a day-use fee for access to state parks. Other fees for the use of state parks and fishing access sites, such as overnight camping fees, are still chargeable and may be collected by the department."

Renumber: subsequent sections

5. Page 5, line 25.

Following: line 25

Insert: "(22) (a) "Golf cart" means a motor vehicle that is designed for use on a golf course to carry a person or persons and golf equipment and that has an average speed of less than 15 miles per hour.

(b) Except as provided in 61-3-201, a golf cart is exempt from titling, registration, and mandatory liability insurance requirements under this title."

Renumber: subsequent subsections

6. Page 6, line 11.

Strike: "(a)"

7. Page 6, line 13.

Strike: "(i)"

Insert: "(a)"

Renumber: subsequent subsections

8. Page 6, line 14.

Following: "of"

Insert: "at least 20 miles an hour and no greater than"

9. Page 6, line 23 through line 24.

Strike: subsection (b) in its entirety

Insert: "(30) "Low-speed restricted driver's license" means a license or permit limited to the operation of a low-speed

electric vehicle or a golf cart issued under or granted by the laws of this state, including:

- (a) a temporary license or instruction permit;
- (b) the privilege of a person to drive a low-speed electric vehicle or golf cart under the authority of [section 2], whether or not the person holds a valid driver's license; and
- (c) a nonresident's similarly restricted driving privilege."

Renumber: subsequent subsections

10. Page 9, line 7.

Strike: "and"

11. Page 9, line 8.

Following: "chapter 9"

Insert: "; and

(iii) a golf cart only if it is equipped for use on the highways as prescribed in chapter 9 and is operated by a person with a low-speed restricted driver's license"

12. Page 15, line 9 through page 16, line 10.

Strike: section 3 in its entirety

Insert: "Section 6. Section 61-3-201, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-3-201. **Certificate of title required -- exclusions.** (1)

Except as provided in subsection (2), the owner of a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile that is in this state and for which a certificate of title has not been issued by or an electronic record of title has not been created by the department shall apply to the department, its authorized agent, or a county treasurer for a certificate of title for the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile.

(2) The following motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, pole trailers, campers, motorboats, personal watercraft, sailboats, or snowmobiles are exempt from the requirements of this part:

(a) a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile owned by the United States, unless the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile is registered in this state;

(b) except as required in 61-4-111, a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile that is:

(i) owned by a manufacturer, a dealer, a wholesaler, or an auto auction; and

(ii) held for sale, even though incidentally moved on the highway, used for purposes of testing or demonstration, or used solely by a manufacturer for testing;

(c) a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer,

camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile owned by a nonresident of this state;

(d) a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, camper, motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, or snowmobile regularly engaged in the interstate transportation of persons or property and:

(i) for which a currently effective certificate of title has been issued in another state or jurisdiction; or

(ii) that is properly registered under the provisions of Title 61, chapter 3, part 7;

(e) a vehicle moved solely by human or animal power;

(f) an implement of husbandry;

(g) special mobile equipment or a motor vehicle or trailer designed and used to apply fertilizer to agricultural land;

(h) a self-propelled wheelchair or tricycle used by a person with a disability;

(i) a dolly or converter gear;

(j) a mobile home or housetrailer; or

(k) a manufactured home declared to be an improvement to real property under 15-1-116; or

(l) a golf cart unless it is operated by a person with a low-speed restricted driver's license."

Insert: "Section 7. Section 61-3-301, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-3-301. Registration -- license plate required -- display. (1) (a) Except as provided in 61-4-120, 61-4-129, and subsection (1)(b) of this section, a person may not operate a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer upon the public highways of Montana unless the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer is properly registered and has the proper license plates conspicuously displayed on the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer. A license plate must be securely fastened to prevent it from swinging and may not be obstructed from plain view.

(b) A motorcycle, quadricycle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer must have a single license plate displayed on the rear of the vehicle. A custom vehicle or street rod registered under 61-3-320(1)(b) or (1)(c)(iii) may display a single license plate firmly attached to the rear exterior of the custom vehicle or street rod. All other motor vehicles must have one license plate displayed on the front and one license plate displayed on the rear of the motor vehicle.

(c) A person may not display on a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer at the same time a number assigned to it under any motor vehicle law except as provided in this chapter.

(d) A low-speed electric vehicle or a golf cart operated by a person with a low-speed restricted driver's license must have special license plates, as provided in 61-3-332(9), displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle.

(2) A person may not purchase or display on a motor

vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer a license plate bearing the number assigned to any county, as provided in 61-3-332, other than the county where the vehicle is domiciled or the county where the trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer is domiciled at the time of application for registration.

(3) It is unlawful to:

(a) display license plates issued to one motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer on any other motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer unless legally transferred as provided by statute;

(b) repaint old license plates to resemble current license plates; or

(c) display a prior design of standard license plates including military, veteran, and amateur radio license plates, or any license plates that have been issued for 5 or more years after the replacement of the license plates is required under 61-3-332(3)(a), except as provided in 61-3-332(3)(c) and (3)(d), 61-3-448, or 61-3-468.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "conspicuously displayed" means that the required license plates are obviously visible and firmly attached to:

(a) the front bumper and the rear bumper of a motor vehicle equipped with front and rear bumpers, except for a custom vehicle or street rod as provided in subsection (1)(b); or

(b) a clearly visible location on the rear of a trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or travel trailer."

Insert: "Section 8. Section 61-3-312, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-3-312. Renewal of registration -- exceptions -- grace period. (1) Except as provided in 61-3-313 and 61-3-721, the registration of a motor vehicle under this chapter must be renewed on or before the last day of the month of the motor vehicle's registration period following the expiration of the motor vehicle's registration.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (4), a person may renew a motor vehicle's registration by submitting full payment for the fees or taxes required under 61-3-303 and ~~61-3-321(12)~~ 61-3-321(13) to the department, an authorized agent, or a county treasurer in any county of this state.

(3) The department, an authorized agent, or a county treasurer may use the online motor vehicle liability insurance verification system provided in 61-6-157 to verify proof of compliance with 61-6-301.

(4) Beginning July 1, 2011, and except when the verification system is temporarily unavailable, a registration may not be renewed when compliance with 61-6-301 cannot be determined using the verification system.

(5) Except as provided in 61-3-315, the registration period originally assigned under 61-3-311 must be retained and the duration of the renewed registration is determined in accordance with 61-3-311. A registration receipt is valid for the

registration period for which it is issued.

(6) The owner of a motor vehicle subject to registration renewal under the provisions of this section is considered to have renewed the motor vehicle's registration in a timely manner if the owner submits full payment for the required fees or taxes, as prescribed in the mail renewal notice from the department, to the department, an authorized agent, or a county treasurer on or before the last day of the month of the motor vehicle's registration period and if, beginning July 1, 2011, the department, authorized agent, or county treasurer determines the owner is in compliance with 61-6-301 using the verification system provided in 61-6-157.

(7) The department, an authorized agent, or a county treasurer may not renew the registration of a motor vehicle for which ownership has been transferred and that was originally registered without being titled under the provisions of 61-3-303(3)(b) unless:

(a) the previously issued certificate of title has been surrendered to the department, an authorized agent, or the county treasurer and the process for issuing a certificate of title has been completed; or

(b) the person to whom ownership of the motor vehicle has been transferred presents an affidavit and bond in support of the application for a certificate of title as permitted in 61-3-208."

Insert: "Section 9. Section 61-3-321, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-3-321. Registration fees of vehicles and vessels -- certain vehicles exempt from registration fees -- disposition of fees. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, registration fees must be paid upon registration or, if applicable, renewal of registration of motor vehicles, snowmobiles, watercraft, trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers as provided in subsections (2) through ~~(19)~~(20):

(2) Unless a light vehicle is permanently registered under 61-3-562, the annual registration fee for light vehicles, trucks and buses under 1 ton, and logging trucks less than 1 ton is as follows:

- (a) if the vehicle is 4 or less years old, \$217;
- (b) if the vehicle is 5 through 10 years old, \$87; and
- (c) if the vehicle is 11 or more years old, \$28.

(3) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~(15), the one-time registration fee based on the declared weight of a trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer is as follows:

(a) if the declared weight is less than 6,000 pounds, \$61.25; or

(b) if the declared weight is 6,000 pounds or more, \$148.25.

(4) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~(15), the one-time registration fee for motor vehicles owned and operated solely as collector's items pursuant to 61-3-411, based on the weight of the vehicle, is as follows:

- (a) 2,850 pounds and over, \$10; and

(b) under 2,850 pounds, \$5.

(5) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~(15), the one-time registration fee for off-highway vehicles other than a quadricycle or motorcycle is \$61.25.

(6) The annual registration fee for heavy trucks, buses, and logging trucks in excess of 1 ton is \$22.75.

(7) (a) The annual registration fee for a motor home, based on the age of the motor home, is as follows:

(i) less than 2 years old, \$282.50;

(ii) 2 years old and less than 5 years old, \$224.25;

(iii) 5 years old and less than 8 years old, \$132.50; and

(iv) 8 years old and older, \$97.50.

(b) The owner of a motor home that is 11 years old or older and that is subject to the registration fee under this section may permanently register the motor home upon payment of:

(i) a one-time registration fee of \$237.50;

(ii) unless a new set of license plates is being issued, an insurance verification fee of \$5, which must be deposited in the account established under 61-6-158; and

(iii) if applicable, five times the renewal fees for personalized license plates under 61-3-406.

(8) (a) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~(15), the one-time registration fee for motorcycles and quadricycles registered for use on public highways is \$53.25, and the one-time registration fee for motorcycles and quadricycles registered for both off-road use and for use on the public highways is \$114.50.

(b) An additional fee of \$16 must be collected for the registration of each motorcycle or quadricycle as a safety fee, which must be deposited in the state motorcycle safety account provided for in 20-25-1002.

(9) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~(15), the one-time registration fee for travel trailers, based on the length of the travel trailer, is as follows:

(a) under 16 feet in length, \$72; and

(b) 16 feet in length or longer, \$152.

(10) Except as provided in subsection ~~(14)~~(15), the one-time registration fee for a motorboat, sailboat, personal watercraft, or motorized pontoon required to be numbered under 23-2-512 is as follows:

(a) for a personal watercraft or a motorboat, sailboat, or motorized pontoon less than 16 feet in length, \$65.50;

(b) for a motorboat, sailboat, or motorized pontoon at least 16 feet in length but less than 19 feet in length, \$125.50; and

(c) for a motorboat, sailboat, or motorized pontoon 19 feet in length or longer, \$295.50.

(11) (a) Except as provided in subsections (11)(b) and ~~(14)~~(15), the one-time registration fee for a snowmobile is \$60.50.

(b) (i) A snowmobile that is licensed by a Montana business and is owned exclusively for the purpose of daily rental to

customers is assessed:

(A) a fee of \$40.50 in the first year of registration; and
(B) if the business reregisters the snowmobile for a second year, a fee of \$20.

(ii) If the business reregisters the snowmobile for a third year, the snowmobile must be permanently registered and the business is assessed the registration fee imposed in subsection (11)(a).

(12) (a) The one-time registration fee for a low-speed electric vehicle is \$53.25.

(b) The one-time registration fee for a golf cart that is owned by a person who has or is applying for a low-speed restricted driver's license is \$53.25.

~~(12)~~ (13) (a) Except as provided in subsection ~~(12)(b)~~ (13)(b), a fee of \$10 must be collected when a new set of standard license plates, a new single standard license plate, or a replacement set of special license plates required under 61-3-332 is issued. The \$10 fee imposed under this subsection does not apply when previously issued license plates are transferred under 61-3-335. All registration fees imposed under this section must be paid if the vehicle to which the plates are transferred is not currently registered.

(b) Until January 1, 2015, an additional fee of \$15 must be collected if a vehicle owner elects to keep the same license plate number from license plates issued on or after January 1, 2006, but before January 1, 2010, when replacement of those plates is required under 61-3-332(3).

(c) The fees imposed in this subsection ~~(12)~~ (13) must be deposited in the account established under 61-6-158, except that \$2 of the fee imposed in subsection ~~(12)(a)~~ (13)(a) must be deposited in the state general fund.

~~(13)~~ (14) The provisions of this part with respect to the payment of registration fees do not apply to and are not binding upon motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, snowmobiles, watercraft, or tractors owned or controlled by the United States of America or any state, county, city, or special district, as defined in 18-8-202, or to a vehicle or vessel that meets the description of property exempt from taxation under 15-6-201(1)(a), (1)(c), (1)(d), (1)(e), (1)(f), (1)(g), (1)(i), (1)(j), (1)(l), or (1)(m), 15-6-203, or 15-6-215, except as provided in 61-3-520.

~~(14)~~ (15) Whenever ownership of a trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, off-highway vehicle, motorcycle, quadricycle, travel trailer, motor home, motorboat, sailboat, personal watercraft, motorized pontoon, snowmobile, or motor vehicle owned and operated solely as a collector's item pursuant to 61-3-411, or low-speed electric vehicle is transferred, the new owner shall title and register the vehicle or vessel as required by this chapter and pay the fees imposed under this section.

~~(15)~~ (16) A person eligible for a waiver under 61-3-460 is exempt from the fees required under this section.

~~(16)~~(17) Except as otherwise provided in this section, revenue collected under this section must be deposited in the state general fund.

~~(17)~~(18) The fees imposed by subsections (2) through ~~(11)~~(12) are not required to be paid by a dealer for the enumerated vehicles or vessels that constitute inventory of the dealership.

~~(18)~~(19) (a) Unless a person exercises the option in subsection ~~(18)~~(b) (19)(b), an additional fee of \$4 must be collected for each light vehicle registered under this part. This fee must be accounted for and transmitted separately from the registration fee. The fee must be deposited in an account in the state special revenue fund to be used for state parks, for fishing access sites, and for the operation of state-owned facilities. Of the \$4 fee, the department of fish, wildlife, and parks shall use \$3.50 for state parks, 25 cents for fishing access sites, and 25 cents for the operation of state-owned facilities at Virginia City and Nevada City.

(b) A person who registers a light vehicle may, at the time of annual registration, certify that the person does not intend to use the vehicle to visit state parks and fishing access sites and may make a written election not to pay the additional \$4 fee provided for in subsection ~~(18)~~(a) (19)(a). If a written election is made, the fee may not be collected.

~~(19)~~(20) For each light vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, heavy truck, motor home, motorcycle, quadricycle, and travel trailer subject to a registration fee under this section, an additional fee of \$5 must be collected and forwarded to the state for deposit in the account established in 44-1-504.

~~(20)~~(21) This section does not apply to a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer that is governed by 61-3-721."

"Section 10. Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-3-332. Standard license plates. (1) In addition to special license plates, collegiate license plates, generic specialty license plates, and fleet license plates authorized under this chapter, a separate series of standard license plates must be issued for motor vehicles, quadricycles, travel trailers, trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers registered in this state or offered for sale by a vehicle dealer licensed in this state. Standard license plates issued to licensed vehicle dealers must be readily distinguishable from license plates issued to vehicles owned by other persons.

(2) (a) Except as provided in 61-3-479 and subsections (2)(b), (3)(b), and (3)(c) of this section, all standard license plates for motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers must bear a distinctive marking, as determined by the department, and be furnished by the department. In years when standard license plates are not reissued for a vehicle, the department shall provide a registration decal that must be affixed to the rear license plate of the vehicle.

(b) For light vehicles that are permanently registered as provided in 61-3-562 and motor vehicles described in 61-3-303(9) that are permanently registered, the department shall provide a distinctive registration decal indicating that the motor vehicle is permanently registered. The registration decal must be affixed to the rear license plate of the permanently registered motor vehicle.

(c) For a travel trailer, motorcycle, quadricycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer that is permanently registered as provided in 61-3-313(2), the department may use the word or an abbreviation for the word "permanent" on the plate in lieu of issuing a registration decal for the plate.

(3) (a) (i) Beginning January 1, 2010, and every 5 years after that date, the department shall design standard license plates to replace previously issued standard license plates. For the purposes of this subsection (3), all military, veteran, and amateur radio license plates and any license plate with a wheelchair design, excluding collegiate or generic specialty plates with a wheelchair design, are treated as standard license plates.

(ii) License plates issued on or after January 1, 2010, must be replaced with the most recent design of standard license plates or a new replacement collegiate or generic speciality license plate if, upon renewal of registration under ~~61-3-332~~ this section, the license plates are 5 or more years old or will become older than 5 years during the registration period.

(iii) License plates issued on or before January 1, 2010, must be replaced with the most recent design of standard license plates or a new replacement collegiate or generic specialty license plate in accordance with the implementation schedule adopted by the department under 61-3-315. Until January 1, 2015, and upon payment of the fee required in ~~61-3-321(12)(b)~~ 61-3-321(13)(b), a vehicle owner may elect to keep the same license plate number from license plates issued on or after January 1, 2006, but before January 1, 2010, when replacement of those plates is required under this subsection.

(b) A motor vehicle that is registered for a 13-month to a 24-month period, as provided in 61-3-311, may display the license plate and plate design in effect at the time of registration for the entire registration period.

(c) A light vehicle described in subsection (2)(b) or a motor home that is permanently registered may display the license plate and plate design in effect at the time of registration for the entire period that the light vehicle or motor home is permanently registered.

(d) The provisions of this subsection (3) do not apply to a travel trailer, motorcycle, quadricycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer.

(e) The requirements of this subsection (3) apply to collegiate license plates authorized under 61-3-461 through 61-3-468, generic specialty license plates authorized under

61-3-472 through 61-3-481, commemorative centennial license plates authorized under 61-3-448, and special military or veteran license plates authorized under 61-3-458.

(4) For trailers and motor vehicles, other than motorcycles and quadricycles, plates must be of metal 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. Except for generic specialty license plates, the outline of the state of Montana must be used as a distinctive border on all license plates, and the word "Montana" must be placed on each license plate. All license plates must be treated with a reflectorized background material according to specifications prescribed by the department.

(5) The distinctive registration numbers for standard license plates must begin with a number one or with a letter-number combination, such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of letters and numbers. Except for special license plates, collegiate license plates, generic specialty license plates, and fleet license plates, the distinctive registration number or letter-number combination assigned to the motor vehicle must appear on the plate preceded by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal baseline. The county number must be separated from the distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless a letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of the numerals and letters must be determined by the department, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal height.

(6) For the use of exempt motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers and motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers that are exempt from the registration fee as provided in 61-3-321, in addition to the markings provided in this section, standard license plates must bear the following distinctive markings:

(a) For motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers owned by the state, the department may designate the prefix number for the various state departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments must bear the words "State Owned", and a year number may not be indicated on the plates because these numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be replaced by the department only when the physical condition of numbered plates requires it.

(b) For motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers that are owned by the counties, municipalities, and special districts, as defined in 18-8-202, organized under the laws of Montana and not operating for profit, and that are used and operated by officials and employees in the line of duty and for motor vehicles on loan from the United States government or the state of Montana to, or owned by, the civil air patrol and used and operated by officials and employees in the line of duty, there must be placed on the standard license plates assigned, in a position that the department may designate, the letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT". Distinctive registration numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole

trailers of each of the counties in the state and those of the municipalities and special districts that obtain plates within each county must begin with number one and be numbered consecutively. Because these standard license plates are of a permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the department only when the physical condition of the license plates requires it and a year number may not be displayed on the plates.

(7) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as follows: Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8; Powder River, 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer, 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17; Beaverhead, 18; Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22; Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25; Pondera, 26; Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30; Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33; Sheridan, 34; Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41; Carter, 42; Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield, 50; Jefferson, 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must be assigned numbers by the department as they are formed, beginning with the number 57.

(8) Each type of special license plate approved by the legislature, except collegiate license plates authorized in 61-3-463 and generic specialty license plates authorized in 61-3-472 through 61-3-481, must be a separate series of plates, numbered as provided in subsection (5), except that the county number must be replaced by a design that distinguishes each separate plate series. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this section, the special plates are subject to the same rules and laws as govern the issuance of standard license plates, must be placed or mounted on a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer owned by the person who is eligible to receive them, with the registration decal affixed to the rear license plate of the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer.

(9) (a) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a special parking permit under 49-4-301 may and a low-speed electric vehicle or golf cart operated by a person with a low-speed restricted driver's license as provided in [section 2] must, upon written application on a form prescribed by the department, be issued a special license plate with a design or decal bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of a person with a disability.

(b) If the motor vehicle to which the license plate is attached is permanently registered, the owner of the motor vehicle shall provide, upon request of a person authorized to enforce special parking laws or ordinances in this or any state, evidence of continued eligibility to use the license plate in the

form of a valid special parking permit issued to or renewed by the vehicle owner under 49-4-304 and 49-4-305.

(c) A person with a permanent condition, as provided in 49-4-301(2)(b), who has been issued a special license plate upon written application, as provided in this subsection (9), is not required to reapply upon reregistration of the motor vehicle.

(10) The provisions of this section do not apply to a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer that is registered as part of a fleet, as defined in 61-3-712, and that is subject to the provisions of 61-3-711 through 61-3-733."

Renumber: subsequent sections

13. Page 17, line 5.

Following: line 5

Insert: "(3) A low-speed restricted driver's license is not valid for the operation of a motor vehicle other than a low-speed electric vehicle or a golf cart."

Renumber: subsequent subsections

14. Page 18, line 14.

Following: "instruction."

Insert: "(1)"

15. Page 18, line 15.

Following: line 15

Insert: (2) [Section 2] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 61, chapter 5, part 1, and the provisions of Title 61, chapter 5, part 1, apply to [section 2].

16. Page 18, line 17.

Following: line 17

Insert: "NEW SECTION. **Section 16. Grandfather clause.** A low-speed electric vehicle or golf cart that meets the definitions provided in 61-1-101 and that was titled and registered under a one-time registration provision as a light vehicle or quadricycle prior to [the effective date of this act] is considered legally titled and registered if operated by a person with a low-speed restricted driver's license."

- END -



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 7, 2011

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker:

We, your committee on **Transportation** recommend that **House Bill 218** (first reading copy -- white) **do pass as amended.**

Signed: _____

Representative Gordon Vance, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page 1, line 11 through line 12.

Strike: "and" on line 11 through "tenets" on line 12

2. Page 1, line 13.

Strike: "subsection"

Insert: "subsections"

Following: "(2)"

Insert: "and (3)"

3. Page 1, line 15.

Strike: "or denomination"

4. Page 1, line 16.

Strike: "or denomination"

5. Page 1.

Following: line 17

Insert: "(3) The department may, in its discretion, upon the application of a religious denomination described in subsection (1), issue a certificate of self-insurance when the denomination demonstrates the ability to meet the minimum liability policy limits, as provided in 61-6-103, for member vehicles."

Renumber: subsequent subsections

- END -

Committee Vote:

Yes 8, No 5

Fiscal Note Required __

HB0218001SC.hgh

Handwritten: 8:50 AM
2/8



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 7, 2011

Page 1 of 2

Mr. Speaker:

We, your committee on **Transportation** recommend that **House Bill 243** (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended.

Signed: _____

Representative Gordon Vance, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Title, page 1, line 10.

Strike: "SECTION"

Insert: "SECTIONS 61-6-131 AND"

2. Page 1, line 14.

Insert: "Section 1. Section 61-6-131, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-6-131. When proof of financial responsibility required.

(1) Whenever the department under any of the laws of this state revokes the license of any person, the license must remain revoked and may not be renewed and a license may not be issued to the person until permitted under the motor vehicle laws of this state and not then unless and until the person maintains proof of financial responsibility.

(2) When the department suspends a license or vehicle registration under 61-6-304, the license and registration must remain suspended and a license or registration may not be issued until permitted under the motor vehicle laws of this state and not then unless and until the person maintains proof of financial responsibility.

(3) If a person is not licensed, but by the final order or judgment is convicted of or forfeits any bail or collateral deposited to secure an appearance for trial for any offense requiring the revocation of a license, a license may not be issued to the person until the person gives and maintains proof of financial responsibility.

(4) Whenever the department revokes a nonresident's operating privilege by reason of a conviction or forfeiture of

Committee Vote:

Yes 7, No 6

Fiscal Note Required ☐

HB0243001SC.hgh

*8:50 AM
2/8*

bail, the privilege remains revoked unless the person has previously given or immediately gives and maintains proof of financial responsibility.""

Renumber: subsequent sections

3. Page 2, line 6.

Strike: "(a)"

4. Page 2, lines 13 through 18.

Strike: subsection (b) in its entirety

Insert: "(4) (a) When a vehicle registration or driver's license is suspended pursuant to this section, proof of compliance with 61-6-301 may be furnished as provided in 61-6-131 through 61-6-140 and 61-6-142."

5. Page 2, line 19.

Strike: "(c)"

Insert: "(b)"

Strike: "subsection (3) (b)"

Insert: "61-6-133"

6. Page 2, line 20.

Following: "10 days after"

Insert: "the insurer has filed"

7. Page 2, line 21.

Strike: "has been filed"

- END -



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 7, 2011

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker:

We, your committee on **Transportation** recommend that **House Bill 251** (first reading copy -- white) **do pass as amended.**

Signed: _____

Representative Gordon Vance, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page.1, line 11.

Strike: "**definition**"

Insert: "definitions"

2. Page 2, line 27 through line 28.

Strike: "operating" on line 27 through "61-10-125" on line 28

Insert: ", that is hauling or towing an implement of husbandry or construction equipment, and that is operating under this section or as authorized by special permit issued under 61-10-121 through 61-10-125 if the vehicle is operating at a speed not less than 10 miles per hour below the posted speed limit"

3. Page 2, line 29.

Following: "section,"

Strike: "\"flag vehicle\""

Insert: "the following definitions apply:

(a) "Construction equipment" means any vehicle, machine, or attachment designed or adapted for and used in construction, heavy construction, highway construction, and remodeling work.

(b) "Flag vehicle"

- END -

Committee Vote:

Yes 12, No 1

Fiscal Note Required ☐

HB0251001SC.hgh

*JA 8:50 AM
2/8*



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 7, 2011

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker:

We, your committee on **Transportation** recommend that **House Bill 277** (first reading copy -- white) **do pass as amended.**

Signed: _____

Representative Gordon Vance, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page 1, line 13.

Following: line 13

Insert: "(2) A person operating a golf cart under this section must have a valid driver's license."

Renumber: subsequent subsections

- END -

Committee Vote:

Yes 12, No 1

Fiscal Note Required ☐

HB0277001SC.hgh

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Roll Call Vote
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE: 2-7-2011 BILL NO 218/ MOTION NO.
MOTION: w amendment

<u>NAME</u>	AYE	NO	If Proxy Vote, check here & include signed Proxy Form with minutes
REP. LEE RANDALL, VICE CHAIR	✓		
REP. STEVE LAVIN	✓		
REP. FRANK SMITH		✓	
REP. JERRY O'NEIL	✓		
REP. KATHY SWANSON		✓	
REP. ELSIE ARNTZEN	✓		
REP. DIANE SANDS		✓	
REP. CAROLYN SQUIRES		✓	
REP. TOM BERRY		✓	
REP. KRAYTON KERNS	✓		
REP. EDWARD GREEF	✓		
REP. MATTHEW ROSENDALE	✓		✓
REP. GORDON VANCE, CHAIR	✓		

8/5

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Roll Call Vote
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE: 2.7.2011 BILL NO 243 MOTION NO. _____
 MOTION: _____ / as amended

<u>NAME</u>	AYE	NO	If Proxy Vote, check here & include signed Proxy Form with minutes
REP. LEE RANDALL, VICE CHAIR		✓	
REP. STEVE LAVIN	✓		
REP. FRANK SMITH	✓		
REP. JERRY O'NEIL		✓	
REP. KATHY SWANSON	✓		
REP. ELSIE ARNTZEN	✓		
REP. DIANE SANDS	✓		
REP. CAROLYN SQUIRES		✓	
REP. TOM BERRY	✓		
REP. KRAYTON KERNS		✓	
REP. EDWARD GREEF	✓		
REP. MATTHEW ROSENDALE		✓	✓
REP. GORDON VANCE, CHAIR		✓	

7 / 6

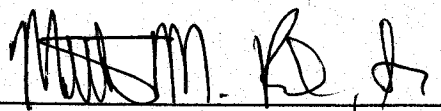
AUTHORIZED COMMITTEE PROXY

I request to be excused from the Transportation

Committee because of other commitments. I desire to leave my proxy vote with:

Indicate Bill number and your vote Aye or No. If there are amendments, list them by name and number under the bill and indicate a separate vote for each amendment.

BILL/AMENDMENT	AYE	NO	BILL/AMENDMENT	AYE	NO
amm 021301	/				
HB 213	/				
amm 021801	/				
HB 216	/				
amm 024301	/				
HB 243		/			
amm 025102	/				
HB 251	/				
amm 027702	/				
277	/				

Rep. 
(Signature)

Date 3-7-11

**MONTANA House of Representatives
Visitors Register
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Monday, February 7, 2011

Sponsor: No Bills to be Heard

PLEASE PRINT

[illegible]

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.